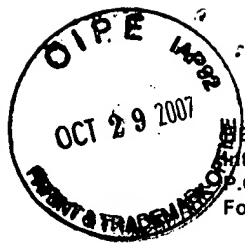


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PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10011005-1

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): James Clough, et al.

Confirmation No.: 1219

Application No.: 09/929,424

Examiner: Boutah, Alina A.

Filing Date: August 13, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2143

Title: METHODS, SYSTEMS, DEVICES AND COMPUTER-READABLE MEDIA FOR ACCESSING NETWORK
ACCESSIBLE DEVICES (as amended)

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF REPLY BRIEF

Transmitted herewith is the Reply Brief with respect to the Examiner's Answer mailed on September 11, 2007.

This Reply Brief is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.193(b) within two months of the date of the Examiner's Answer.

(Note: Extensions of time are not allowed under 37 CFR 1.136(a))

(Note: Failure to file a Reply Brief will result in dismissal of the Appeal as to the claims made subject to an expressly stated new ground rejection.)

No fee is required for filing of this Reply Brief.

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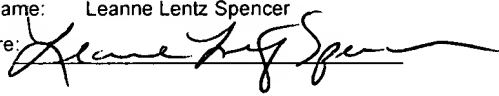
Date of Deposit: October 26, 2007

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Respectfully submitted,

James Clough, et al.

By 

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Date : October 26, 2007

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Appl. No. 09/929,424

Atty. Docket No. 10011005-1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE


In re Application of :
James Clough, et al. : Confirmation No.: 1219
Appl. No. 09/929,424 : Group Art Unit: 2143
Filed: August 13, 2001 : Examiner: Boutah, Alina A.
For METHODS, SYSTEMS, DEVICES
AND COMPUTER-READABLE MEDIA
FOR ACCESSING NETWORK
ACCESSIBLE DEVICES (as amended)

REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR § 41.41

Mail Stop Appeal Brief – Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

The appellant files this Reply Brief under 37 CFR § 41.41 in
response to the Examiner's Answer mailed on September 11, 2007.
Consideration of the following remarks in conjunction with the Appeal Brief filed
May 8, 2007 is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8 (a))	
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Date: <u>Oct. 26, 2007</u>	 Signature <u>Leanne Lentz Spencer</u>

REMARKS

Claims 1-5

The Examiner contends in the Examiner's Answer that "it is clear that the Internet appliance [of Krishnan et al] is equivalent to the network-accessible device, and the URL beacon 23 is the associated address data that is wirelessly transmitted to the remote operator 10 (interpreted as a client) as claimed." Appellant respectfully disagrees that the Internet appliance 20 of Krishnan et al is equivalent to the claimed network-accessible device.

Appellant initially points out that the Examiner's statement that the URL beacon 23 *is* the associated address data that is wirelessly transmitted is incorrect. While the URL beacon 23 does wirelessly transmit data, the URL beacon 23 itself clearly is not data that is transmitted. Nonetheless, appellant submits that the data transmitted by the URL beacon 23 is not data "configured for use in accessing, via a network, a network-accessible device that wirelessly transmitted the associated address data," as required by claim 1. The data transmitted by the URL beacon 23 is "the web address of the web site (or Internet site) which is currently accessed by the Internet appliance 20," as stated in Paragraph 0035 of Krishnan et al. This web address data is not configured for use in accessing the Internet appliance 20. Instead, the web address data is stored by the remote operator 10 (see the last sentence of paragraph 0036) so that a user is then able to use the remote operator 10 to electronically input to the Internet appliance 20 the web address of the desired Internet site to be accessed by the Internet appliance 20 (see paragraphs 0021 and 0032). That is, the web address data is used by the Internet appliance 20 to access a desired Internet site; it is NOT used by the remote operator 10 to access the Internet appliance 20. The remote operator 10 communicates back and forth with the Internet appliance 20 via the URL beacon 23 and the URL receiver 24 and is thus able to access the Internet appliance 20 without the web address data. Clearly, the

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remote operator does not use this web address data to access the Internet appliance 20.

Krishnan et al also describes in paragraph 0035 that the URL beacon 23 can broadcast the web address data to devices other than the remote operator 10. Such devices can include a personal digital assistant, a pager, a watch, a cellular phone, or any other kind of information appliance. However, there is no mention of what any of these devices would do with web address data received from the URL beacon 23. Krishnan et al fails to suggest that any of these devices would use web address data received from the URL beacon 23 to access a network-accessible device via a network.

Appellant also disagrees with the contention in the Examiner's Answer that the Internet appliance 20 of Krishnan et al is accessed by a client device via a network because the wireless communication between the Internet appliance 20 and the remote operator 10 can be interpreted as a "network." Claim 1 recites "a connection module for establishing a network link with one or more client devices based upon the wirelessly transmitted address data." Appellant respectfully submits that the mere fact that the Internet appliance 20 and the remote operator 10 are wirelessly connected does not make them a network, and thus the wireless communication link is not necessarily a "network link." Even if the wireless communication link between the Internet appliance 20 and the remote operator 10 could be broadly interpreted as a "network link," there is no showing that the link permits individual client devices (i.e., the remote operator 10) to access a network-accessible device (i.e., the Internet appliance 20) using address data transmitted by the network-accessible device, as is required by claim 1. In addition, if the wireless communication link between the Internet appliance 20 and the remote operator 10 is the claimed network link, then there is no teaching or suggestion that this wireless communication link is a wired link as required by claim 3. The Examiner refers to paragraph 0013 of

Krishnan et al for this feature, but paragraph 0013 describes the structure of the remote operator and there is simply no mention of a wired link between the Internet appliance 20 and the remote operator 10. Similarly, Krishnan et al fails to teach that the wireless communication link between the Internet appliance 20 and the remote operator 10 is an Internet link as required by claim 4 or a wireless Internet link as required by claim 5.

The Examiner further asserts that the address data transmitted by the URL beacon 23 can be "broadly interpreted" as the claimed "associated address data." However, this assertion overlooks the fact that claim 1 recites that the associated address data is "configured for use in accessing, via a network, a network-accessible device that wirelessly transmitted the associated address data." For the reasons discussed above, the web address data transmitted by the URL beacon 23 is not configured for use in accessing the Internet appliance 20. Thus, the address data transmitted by the URL beacon 23 cannot be interpreted as being the claimed associated address data.

Claims 6 and 7

The Examiner contends that Krishnan et al does teach an Internet-connected printer that wirelessly transmits address data used by a client device to establish an Internet link with the printer. Appellant agrees that paragraph 0024 states that the Internet appliance 20 can be a printer. However, even if the Internet appliance 20 is a printer, Krishnan et al still fails to describe transmitting associated address data that is configured for use in accessing the Internet appliance/printer 20 via the Internet. As discussed above, the web address data transmitted by the URL beacon 23 is not configured for use in accessing the Internet appliance 20. Furthermore, the remote operator 10 does not access the Internet appliance 20 via the Internet. The remote operator 10 communicates wirelessly with the Internet appliance 20 via the URL beacon 23 and the URL

receiver 24; there is simply no suggestion of the remote operator 10 accessing the Internet appliance 20 via the Internet.

Claims 8-13

The Examiner states that the supporting rationale of the rejection to claims 1 and 6 applies equally well to claims 8 and 13, respectively. However, for the reasons given above, appellant submits that the supporting rationale for the rejections of claims 1 and 6 is flawed. Furthermore, as pointed out in the Appeal Brief filed May 8, 2007, Krishnan et al fails to disclose computer-readable media having instructions as recited in claims 8 and 13. The Examiner's Answer does not address this argument.

Claims 14-20

The Examiner argues that the remote operator 10 of Krishnan et al "wirelessly receives URLs from the Internet appliance 20, storing the URL, and using the stored URL to establish an Internet link." However, claim 14 recites a client device that establishes an Internet link with one or more Internet-accessible devices using address data wirelessly received from at least one Internet-accessible device. In other words, an Internet link is established between the client device and the one or more Internet-accessible devices. The remote operator 10, which the Examiner asserts corresponds to the claimed client device, transmits web address data to the Internet appliance 20, and the Internet appliance 20 uses the transmitted web address data access the desired Internet site. The Internet appliance 20 accesses the Internet, but there is no Internet link established between the remote operator 10 and the Internet appliance 20.

Claims 21-27

Claim 21 recites a method that comprises wirelessly beaconing address data associated with a particular device and establishing an Internet link with one or more client devices based on the wirelessly beacons address data, the link permitting interaction between the particular device and the one or more client devices. As discussed above, the remote operator 10 of Krishnan et al transmits web address data to the Internet appliance 20 that the Internet appliance 20 uses to access a desired Internet site. However, Krishnan et al does not teach establishing an Internet link that permits interaction between the Internet appliance 20 and the remote operator 10.

Claim 28

The Examiner contends that Krishnan et al teaches wirelessly beaconing associated address data from a network-accessible device and wirelessly receiving such address data with a client device because Figure 1 shows an Internet appliance device 20 that includes a URL beacon 23 that wirelessly transmits URLs to a remote operator. However, claim 28 recites one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon. The instructions cause one or more processors in a network-accessible device to wirelessly beacon address data associated with the network-accessible device and establish an Internet link with one or more client devices based on the wirelessly beacons address data. The Internet appliance 20 accesses the Internet based on data transmitted by the remote operator 10, but the Internet appliance 20 does not establish an Internet link with the remote operator 10.

Claims 29-31

The Examiner asserts that Krishnan et al teaches wirelessly receiving address data that is associated with and transmitted by the same

Internet-accessible device and using that address data to establish an Internet connection. However, claim 29 recites a method for accessing Internet-accessible devices that comprises discovering one or more Internet-accessible devices by wirelessly receiving one or more URLs associated with and transmitted by the Internet-accessible devices, establishing an Internet connection with the one or more Internet-accessible devices based on the one or more URLs, and interacting with the one or more Internet-accessible devices via the Internet connection. As discussed above, the URL beacon 23 of the Internet appliance 20 wirelessly transmits URLs that are received by the remote operator 10. However, the URLs transmitted by the URL beacon 23 are the web address of the web site that is currently accessed by the Internet appliance 20. Thus, these URLs are associated with the respective web sites, not the Internet appliance 20. Furthermore, the URLs are used by the Internet appliance 20 to access the desired web site, but Krishnan et al does not teach interacting with the Internet appliance 20 via an Internet connection that is established based on the URLs.

Claims 32-35

The Examiner states that the supporting rationale of the rejection to claim 6 applies equally well to claim 32. However, appellant respectfully disagrees with the assertion that claim 32 recites substantially the same elements as claim 6. There may be similarities between the two claims, but the elements are not substantially the same. Appellant also submits, for the reasons given above, that the supporting rationale for the rejection of claim 6 is flawed. Furthermore, Krishnan et al simply does not teach interacting with an Internet-connected printer via an Internet link established between a client device and the Internet-connected printer, as required by claim 32.

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Claim 36

The Examiner states that the supporting rationale of the rejection to claim 6 applies equally well to claim 36. However, appellant respectfully disagrees with the assertion that claim 36 recites substantially the same elements as claim 6. Furthermore, for the reasons given above, appellant submits that the supporting rationale for the rejection of claim 6 is flawed.

Conclusion

Appellant has shown the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) to be in error. Therefore, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences is respectfully requested to reverse of the final rejection of claims 1-36 and to hold all the claims to be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

10/26/07

Date

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